

NEW BOOKS.
Brief Reviews of Important and Interesting
New Publications.

Mrs. Kate Upson Clark writes graceful and charming stories, and a volume of them for which the discerning reader will not fail to thank her is published under the title of "White Butterflies" by J. F. Taylor & Co. Founded in a realism which is happily not obtruded, they are generous enough to include events, and they are good stories for the good reason that they are regulated by wisdom and expressed with art. It must be that there are plenty of people of more impressive reputation who are less interesting than the little community of French-Canadian charcoal burners included here, who kept the kilns hot and developed a great smoke and a very pathetic little romance on the top of a Vermont mountain. Smoke City is a beautiful name, no doubt, a gratuity dune off by a benevolent neighborhood opulent in humor, and not set down in the map or recognized by the Post Office. We do not know that there was ever a city of charcoal burners, though it is very likely that there were a great many of that calling. Birming-ham before reading the book was discovered down under the roots of the trees.

Smoke City had no city hall, no Mayor, and no police force, and though it did have a rather notable fire department, which burned down the surrounding forest with much professional ardor, there was no proud urban features subject to its boastful claim. It was unpretentious, new and crude, a place of unpainted cabins and unfenced doorways, the men so besmoked that they looked like blackmoors, the children neglected and vociferous, stumps everywhere. But Mrs. Clark knew her way to Smoke City, and so, while making no concealment of these matters, she was at no loss to conduct us to the Roney library, which hung on a shelf in old Adolph Roney's best room—namely, his kitchen—and was certainly a worthy and splendid manifestation, and to the beautiful flower garden, a place of beauty which would have attracted attention anywhere and that was less than wonderful in its actual surroundings.

Our belief is that the reader would have liked to be company for Pierrette Beaubien in her flower garden. It is not said in so many words in the story that she was beautiful and charming, but one knows very well that she must have been. She was half a head taller than her father, and she was proud and inclined to a certain severity of opinion in sentimental matters up to the time when André Reboul was taken in by the Beaubiens as a boarder. Old Adolph Roney set store by learning; he had his library as proof that he did, but it is not apparent at all that Pierrette Beaubien's chances for happiness in Smoke City were modified by the circumstance that she could not read or write. Any candid person will admit that a tall girl in a flower garden is not necessarily called upon to be a scholar in order to be interesting.

If she has earnest and poetical emotions she is suited to be quite interesting enough, as everybody who reads this story, and as André Reboul very soon found when he came into the Beaubien household as a boarder. Perhaps, though she was not possessed of those accomplishments of the intellect which distinguished Adolph Roney, she had heard of the aphorism which warns us not to leap at conclusions; if she had, it is a pity that she could not have recalled it at the point where, in her experience, it was the most necessary. That is what the story very effectively sets before us. The story which gives the book its title is the story of a burglar. That burglary should be complicated with white butterflies is curious, and the curious thing, of course, is the thing that we would particularly like to find out about, and this, plainly, Mrs. Clark very well knew. One reading the story will learn what the white butterflies had to do with the burglary, and will also learn what a good story it is.

It would be a good story if it involved the burglary alone. It is a good story if it involves the white butterflies included. Almost needless to point out, a better story would need a still further application of the multiplication table. "Raid," another story in the book, is a story of the Wisconsin lumberman. Raid is a strapping heroine who despises readily with a weak hero after she has given him a fair trial. In "Cupid and Minerva" we penetrate a secrecy surrounding the personality of the most distinguished literary critic in New York, the process being interesting and the result remarkable. "Dixie" is an Arkansas story, "The Christmas Witch" is a New England story of the last century, and there are thirteen stories altogether, affording varieties of local color and of dialect. A clever and agreeable book.

Four parts of "Chiefs d'Europe" of the Exposition Universelle, a handsome work which is to contain twenty-five parts, after-coming, come to us from George Harré & Son, Philadelphia. We believe that the benevolent will overlook the title. The exhibition in Paris is concluded, but here is a considerable part of the splendid picture gallery. Times numbers are devoted to the French pictures which were shown. Here is Lady Godiva coming down the street. When she originally came down there was a penalty for looking at her, but now everybody is invited to behold her beauty and her trouble. A snick and span Bouguereau picture exposes Cupid to the concentrated admiration of five girls. The doughty little fellow stands it well, showing hardly any emotion, his pose is collected, his hair is nicely curled and he plays prettily with one wing. These girls who are "fixing" Cupid, as Mr. Henry James would say, are all rather slender, but anybody desiring to look at a naked girl will find one combining her hair on page 1.

If the arms of this French Lorelei were subdivided and distributed among half a dozen girls they would be fairly well supplied. Of course, Danes are here, regarding gracefully a shower of gold and, of course, we have the "Sleeping Lady" and the "Toilet Lady" in the Harum, and all the others of that ample kind. In the second number is a French conception of Washington leaving Whitehall for Paulus Hook. He has got Frenchmen to row the boat, and we suspect that he is trying to be French himself, and any reader who is very different from the conventional portraits and statues of him. At the same time, nobody will say that he is not an impressive and good Washington. The covers of the several numbers are brightly and handsomely decorated. The pictures are in great variety and are variously and excellently reproduced.

The American Lyceum entertainers are, so Major Pond says, "more than a popular match for the London music hall artists or the Parisian clowns." The Major ought to know. He is the acknowledged commander-in-chief of that great body of irregulars, the Lyceum Sharpshooters, and in a portly and well illustrated volume, entitled "Eccentricities of Genius" (Dillingham), he gives a mass of the most interesting information about the many lives and the many names of the platform who have charged the public under his direction. They are for the most part an interesting lot, ranging from the bearers of names of such dignity and importance as Wendell Phillips, Spurgeon or Mark Twain and the names of the absurd Mr. Hubbard of East Aurora.

This Mr. Hubbard seems to be a person in whom a modest difference is inconspicuous. We find the Major, on page 268, somewhat ruefully quoting him as having said: "If I get down to business here and I cut off all distractions, I can make a name equal to John Ruskin's or Thomas Carlyle's. I am not, but I must keep out of sight in order to succeed. To merely talk is not to succeed, and the public is only a devil that takes a man to the top of the mountain and then casts him on the steep and treacherous slope." "To merely talk" seems regrettable in more

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She Will Ask to Have the Well Divorce Case Reopened. She Says.

Gerome Edwardy, the actress whom a jury declared to have been intimate with Henry Goodman Weil, employed A. H. Hummel yesterday to move to open the divorce case against Weil, in which the declaration was made, so that she could vindicate her character. The jury also found that Gerome Agnew, now the wife of Daniel B. Reed, a wealthy man, sustained further relations with Weil. Miss Edwardy further told Mr. Hummel to sue Mrs. Weil for defamation of character. She subsequently said:

"It is outrageous that I should be treated as I live in Paris, and I came here several weeks ago for the express purpose of appearing to defend myself against the charges made in this case. In Paris you have a chance for your life, but you don't here. I think it was real mean for Mr. Weil not to have come to the front for Miss Agnew and myself when we knew the charges were false, but, of course, I did not expect the case to be on for weeks. I am anxious to take the witness

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